



**Zero Waste Arlington  
February 2024 Special Meeting - Meeting Minutes  
DRAFT**

Date: 02/15/24  
Time: 7pm  
Location: Zoom

Attendees: Priya Sankalia, Jim Ballin, Larry Slotnick, Paul Goldberg, Amy Speare, Margie Bell, Charlotte Milan

**Agenda**

1. Old Business
  - a. Review and approve November 2023 and Jan 18th 2024 ZWA meeting minutes.
2. New Business
  - a. Skip the Stuff outreach planning
  - b. Plastic Free MA membership vote
  - c. Chamber of Commerce membership discussion
  - d. ZWA Strategic Planning discussion
  - e. Subcommittee Updates
  - f. Miscellaneous Topics

**Minutes**

1. The committee approved November 2023 and January 2024 special meeting minutes
2. The committee voted in favor of being a member of Plastic Free MA. Paul will follow up on membership.
3. Discussion on membership to Arlington Chamber of Commerce: Larry made the case for the committee being members
  - a. It would be a good show of support and show the members that the chamber is willing to work with them on waste reduction
  - b. There are several other town committees who are members including the tree committee.
  - c. This could be a networking opportunity
  - d. From Deanne's email it is an add-on membership of \$55

- e. There was discussion on whether this would benefit us.
  - f. In conclusion the committee voted in favor of being a member and using \$55 of our budget for the membership fees
- 4. ZWA Meetings starting next month - March 2024
  - a. There are some conflicts with the 4th Thursday of the month
  - b. Members were okay with moving to the 3rd Thursdays
  - c. Meetings would be in person at Grove St
  - d. Priya to send Charlotte list of meetings for the year
- 5. Budget Discussion
  - a. We are to give the Town a budget for FY 2025. Priya/Larry to present budget under the following categories:
    - i. Town Day outreach materials
    - ii. Website costs
    - iii. Website hosting
    - iv. Graphics designer
    - v. Zoom
    - vi. Visioning exercise - \$500
- 6. Strategic Planning/Visioning meeting
  - a. Plan for it on a weekend
  - b. Put out an email on the Arlington list
  - c. Do a doodle poll for a Sunday afternoon - pick a few dates in April and May. Priya to follow up with doodle poll and email on list.
- 7. Charlotte Updates
  - a. EcoFest in April - May
  - b. April 20 and 21st - ZWA plastics awareness event for EcoFest - ZWA will sponsor and be on panel
  - c. Resource Fair - want it to have a strong environmental organization showing 28th of April. Good tabling opportunity
  - d. Discussed additional tabling opportunities - outside Whole Foods and Stop N Shop
    - i. We could do it during EcoFest
    - ii. Sign up for tabling
  - e. Pumpkin Recycling
    - i. We could plan it as a separate event
    - ii. Drop off at Reuse and Recycle Center
    - iii. Have Black Earth give us a truck that can stay over the weekend
    - iv. Families outside of school going kids can drop off
    - v. Plan for Nov 9th
    - vi. Larry will reach out to Black Earth
  - f. New hauling contract - This Spring will be going out to bid on a new hauling contract starting July 2025. Want it signed this summer for the budget for FY 26
- 8. Skip the Stuff update
  - a. Amy updated the committee on progress
  - b. Email sent out to restaurants with survey link

- c. 3 responses so far
- 9. Update on legislation - The Senate Ways and Means bills are focused on plastics (nips, single use plastic bottles, food service ware) - very large bills that are composites of smaller bills. The other is the Paint Products Stewardship bill is in Ways and Means.
  - a. Mully and Paul are working on strategies on connecting with the chairs of these committees - Cindy Friedman is the chair of one of them
  - b. Contacting the speaker etc.
  - c. Revamped bottle bill could bring in estimated \$200 million which is a good amount of \$\$
  - d. Paul will write a boilerplate letter on some call to action

Meeting adjourned at 8:28